1960 ISSUE

IPMR

INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

GUEST EDITORIAL

ANDREW W. CORDIER, *EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT*
TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Six blocks south of the United Nations an unending drama is being enacted day and night. There, at the Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation of New York University Medical Center, patients afflicted with many types of physical handicaps are finding their way back to health and usefulness. It is a drama of quiet and raw courage in which the resources of each individual are called upon to the utmost to join strength with the advanced skills and extraordinary methods of treatment which Dr. Rusk and his staff have developed.

A person who has never had an affliction can hardly know the full capacity of the human body to compensate for a particular disability, but there, these added resources of the human body are drawn upon—adjustments are made—and, in response to treatment, life carries on with a new balance of strength in daily living.

A child born without arms is equipped with the means of performing the normal functions of the hands. The numerous victims of arthritis are effectively treated and, to the degree that their crippled condition is permanent, countless devices have been invented, in some cases by the arthritic patients themselves, to pursue the functions of normal living. A model house stands within the shadow of the Institute designed for maximum comfort and efficiency of living for persons in wheelchairs.

Throughout the Institute there is an atmosphere of optimism, of hope, and of faith which flows from the deep dedication of the staff to the welfare of the patients. Each patient, it seems to me, is regarded as a sacred trust, whose welfare is a matter of personal concern to all.

One feels that the three additional floors added to the Institute several years ago represent only an interim stage in its development. This expansion is also symbolic of the outreach of the work being conducted there. Through many channels, the Institute wields a world-wide influence in the development and use of advanced rehabilitation techniques. A large group of selected fellows from many countries have come to the Institute to train. Successive classes receiving this exceptional training carry its benefits back to hospitals and rehabilitation centers all over the world.

A remarkable example of the outreach of the Institute has been the establishment of production plants such as "Abilities Incorporated" where handicapped people carry on productive and remunerative activities and thus belie the full reality of their handicaps. The very name of the firm—"Abilities Incorporated"—suggests a positive emphasis upon human values and the exploitation of human resources which are often not developed to the full in people not suffering from disabilities.

Dr. Rusk properly sees a deep international purpose in the work being conducted at the Institute. In a genuine sense he and his staff are undertaking tasks similar to those of the United Nations. The understanding, indeed the fellowship, that is produced by efforts to assist the disabled wherever they are around the world; the extension of skills across national frontiers; the sharing of experiences regardless of nationality—all of these contribute to a "people to people" understanding which is a basic foundation for peace.

Furthermore, the faith of the afflicted often strengthens the faith of the nonafflicted, and the steel-like courage of the afflicted often adds to the courage of the nonafflicted. Thus, patients themselves make their own vital contribution to these spiritual and moral qualities that the world as a whole needs as a foundation for peace.

SWENSON

VOLUME 2 1960 ISSUE NUMBER 1

IPMR

A CHRONICLE OF INDEPENDENCE

The Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
New York University Medical Center

Guest Editorial ..... **Inside Cover**
Andrew W. Cordier, Executive Assistant
To the Secretary General of the United Nations

"If every man would but mend a man . . ." **4**
Howard A. Rusk, M.D., Director
Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

John Crown's Legacy **6**

India's Dr. Mary Verghese **7**

World Travel by Wheelchair **9**
Lyman B. Kirkpatrick, Jr.

The Functional Home for Easier Living **12**

Our Invaluable Volunteers **14**
Louise J. Lake, Director
Volunteer Services, and Rehabilitation
Lecturer, Institute of Physical
Medicine and Rehabilitation

Research in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation **19**
Edward W. Lowman, M.D., Clinical Director
Institute of Physical Medicine and
Rehabilitation

Veronica Gardiner **22**

Johnny **24**
George G. Deaver, M.D., Director
Childrens Division, Institute of
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

Executive Editor
Howard A. Rusk, M.D.

Managing Editor
Louise W. Swenson

Associate Editors
Beatrice S. Mann
Eugene J. Taylor

Publication Consultant
Hazen Morse, Associated Business Publications

Art Director
George Bourgard, Associated Business Publications

Front Cover Photograph
Louise Swenson

Back Cover Photograph
Stanley Simmons

Published by
The Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
New York University Medical Center
400 East 34th Street, New York 16, New York